

REMARKS

A statement that the present application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/007575 has been added immediately after the TITLE.

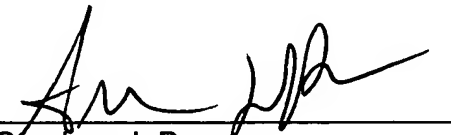
Claim 1 has been amended to replace the phrase "characterized by" with the word "comprising" and the phrase "have the significances given above" with "are defined as above" to better conform to U.S. practice. These amendments do not change the scope of the claim in any way.

Claims 5, 6, 9-12, and 14-16 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies to conform with U.S. practice and to minimize filing fees.

It is submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the foregoing amendments. Approval and entry of the amendments is respectfully solicited.

Favorable action on the merits including entry of the Preliminary Amendment prior to examination on the merits and allowance of all the claims, respectfully, is requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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